

means for providing to the content display system a set of instructions for enabling a display device to selectively display an image or images generated from a set of content data;

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first communication means for enabling communication between the means for providing and the content display system;

second communication means for enabling communication between the content providing system and the content display system; and

means for auditing the display of sets of content data by the content display system.

2 ~~20~~. (Amended) A system [as in Claim 19, further comprising] for engaging the peripheral attention of a person in the vicinity of a display device of an apparatus, comprising:

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means for acquiring a set of content data from a content providing system;

means for selectively displaying on the display device, in an unobtrusive manner that does not distract a user of the apparatus from a primary interaction with the apparatus, an image or images generated from the set of content data; and

means for detecting an idle period of predetermined duration, [and] wherein the means for selectively displaying displays the image or images automatically after detection of the idle period.

3 32. (Amended) A system as in Claim [19] ~~20~~², further comprising means for detecting a predetermined user interaction with the apparatus subsequent to detection of the idle period, wherein occurrence of the predetermined user interaction causes the means for selectively displaying to stop displaying an image or images generated from a set of content data.

4 33. (Amended) A system [as in Claim 19, further] for engaging the peripheral attention of a person in the vicinity of a display device of an apparatus, comprising:

C3 means for acquiring a set of content data from a content providing system;

means for selectively displaying on the display device, in an unobtrusive manner that does not distract a user of the apparatus from a primary interaction with the apparatus, an image or images generated from the set of content data;

means for displaying one or more control options with the display device while the means for selectively displaying is operating;

means for selecting a displayed control option; and

means for controlling aspects of the operation of the system in accordance with a selected control option.

C4 11 ~~40.~~ (Amended) A system as in Claim [35] ~~38~~ ⁴, wherein:

the control option enables the user to establish a link with an information location; and

the means for controlling establishes the link with the information location.

C5 12 ~~47.~~ (Amended) A method [as in Claim ~~46~~, further comprising the step of] for engaging the peripheral attention of a person in the vicinity of a display device of an apparatus, comprising the steps of:

acquiring a set of content data from a content providing system;

detecting an idle period of predetermined duration; and
selectively displaying on the display device, in an unobtrusive manner that does not distract a user of the apparatus from a primary interaction with the apparatus, an image or images generated from the set of content data,
[and] wherein the step of selectively displaying further comprises the step of displaying the image or images automatically after detection of the idle period.

C6 13 ~~51.~~ (Amended) A computer readable medium [as in Claim 50] encoded with one or more computer programs for enabling acquisition of a set of content data and display of an image or images generated from the set of content data on a display device during operation of an attention manager, comprising:

acquisition instructions for enabling acquisition of a set of content data from a specified information source;

user interface installation instructions for enabling provision of a user interface that allows a person to request the set of content data from the specified information source;

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content data scheduling instructions for providing temporal constraints on the display of the image or images generated from the set of content data, the content data scheduling instructions further comprising duration instructions for enabling specification of the duration of time that the image or images generated from a set of content data can be displayed, wherein the duration instructions specify a duration of time that is dependent upon the particular time at which the image or images generated from a set of content data are displayed after the attention manager begins operating; and

display instructions for enabling display of the image or images generated from the set of content data.

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~~52.~~ (Amended) A computer readable medium [as in Claim 50] encoded with one or more computer programs for enabling acquisition of a set of content data and display of an image or images generated from the set of content data on a display device during operation of an attention manager, comprising:

acquisition instructions for enabling acquisition of a set of content data from a specified information source;

user interface installation instructions for enabling provision of a user interface that allows a person to request the set of content data from the specified information source;

content data scheduling instructions for providing temporal constraints on the display of the image or images generated from the set of content data, the content data scheduling instructions further comprising duration instructions for enabling specification of the duration of time that the image or images generated from a set of content data can be displayed, wherein the duration instructions specify a duration of time that is dependent upon the number of previous times that the image or images have been displayed during a continuous operation of the attention manager; and

display instructions for enabling display of the image or images generated from the set of content data.

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53. (Amended) A computer readable medium [as in Claim 49] encoded with one or more computer programs for enabling acquisition of a set of content data and display of an image or images generated from the set of content data on a display device during operation of an attention manager, comprising:

acquisition instructions for enabling acquisition of a set of content data from a specified information source;

user interface installation instructions for enabling provision of a user interface that allows a person to request the set of content data from the specified information source;

content data scheduling instructions for providing temporal constraints on the display of the image or images generated from the set of content data, wherein the content data scheduling instructions further comprise sequencing instructions that specify an order in which the images generated from a [plurality of sets] set of content data are displayed; and

display instructions for enabling display of the image or images generated from the set of content data.

17 58. (Amended) A computer readable medium [as in Claim 49] encoded with one or more computer programs for enabling acquisition of a set of content data and display of an image or images generated from the set of content data on a display device during operation of an attention manager, comprising:

acquisition instructions for enabling acquisition of a set of content data from a specified information source;

user interface installation instructions for enabling provision of a user interface that allows a person to request the set of content data from the specified information source;

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content data scheduling instructions for providing temporal constraints on the display of the image or images generated from the set of content data, wherein the content data scheduling instructions further comprise saturation instructions that constrain the number of times that the image or images generated from a set of content data can be displayed; and

display instructions for enabling display of the image or images generated from the set of content data.

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18-65. (Amended) A computer readable medium [as in Claim 64, further comprising], for use by a content display system, encoded with one or more computer programs for enabling acquisition of a set of content data and display of an image or images generated from the set of content data on a display device during operation of an attention manager, comprising:

acquisition instructions for enabling acquisition of a set of content data from a specified information source;

user interface installation instructions for enabling provision of a user interface that allows a person to request the set of content data from the specified information source;

content data scheduling instructions for providing temporal constraints on the display of the image or images generated from the set of content data;

display instructions for enabling display of the image or images generated from the set of content data;

content data update instructions for enabling
acquisition of an updated set of content data from an
information source that corresponds to a previously acquired
set of content data;

operating instructions for beginning, managing and
terminating the display on the display device of an image
generated from a set of content data;

content display system scheduling instructions for
scheduling the display of the image or images on the display
device;

installation instructions for installing the operating
instructions and content display system scheduling
instructions on the content display system; and

audit instructions for monitoring usage of the content
display system to selectively display an image or images
generated from a set of content data.

REMARKS

Amendments to the Specification

In the Office Action dated September 22, 1998, the Examiner
stated:

The amendment to the list of inventors on page 1 has
not been entered since the entry of these amendments
into the specification would lead to confusion.
Applicant is suggested to provide these amendments as a
single deletion of those lines in there entirety and
the single insertion of the list in its entirety. The
remaining amendments to the specification and the new
declaration and power of attorney has been entered.